

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: US STATEMENT AT 82ND PLENARY, 3/16/76

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 132

1. US STATEMENT MADE AT 82ND PLENARY MEETING, MARCH 16, 1976,

FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

MR MINISTER:

I WOULD FIRST LIKE TO REVIEW THE US POSITION ON THE LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK.. THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE YIELD LEVEL OF 300 KT TO INTRODUCE THE LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK HAS BEEN FULLY GIVEN BY DR. PILOTTE DURING THIS SESSION.

THE BASIS FOR LOCATING THE STATIONS OUT TO A RADIUS OF 20 KM HAS ALSO BEEN FULLY DISCUSSED. THE US SIDE FURTHER HAS PRESENTED A SOUNDLY-BASED RATIONALE FOR OPERATING THE NETWORK AFTER THE EXPLOSION TO DETECT CAVITY COLLAPSE.

THROUGHOUT DISCUSSION OF PROVISIONS FOR THE LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK, WE BEAR IN MIND AT ALL TIMES THAT THE PROFICIENCY OF THIS NETWORK IS A SUBSTANTIAL FACTOR IN DETERMINING THE ALLOWABLE AGGREGATE YIELD LIMIT.

AS WE HAVE ALSO STATED, AND DR. SAFRONOV HAS AGREED, ACCESS BY DESIGNATED PERSONNEL IS A NECESSARY MEASURE TO PROVIDE ASSURANCE THAT NO COLLATERAL EXPLOSION WAS CONDUCTED CLOSE TO A GROUP EXPLOSION. WE HAVE AGREED THAT AN AREA WITH A RADIUS OF 10 KILOMETERS IS

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SUFFICIENT TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, ALTHOUGH THE

QUESTION OF EXTENT OF ACCESS IS NOT YET FULLY RESOLVED.

IT IS THE US POSITION THAT THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEISMIC STATIONS EITHER TO DISCOURAGE OR TO DETECT A COLLATERAL EXPLOSION IN N PLUS 5, WITH N BEING THE NUMBER OF EXPLOSIONS.

OTHER PARTS OF THE US POSITION ARE THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THE YIELD LEVEL TO INTRODUCE THE LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK SHOULD BE 300 KILOTONS;

(2) THE ALLOWED RADIUS FOR LOCATION OF THE LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK IS 20 KILOMETERS;

(3) THERE SHOULD BE A RIGHT TO OPERATE THE NETWORK FOR A PERIOD OF 15 DAYS AFTER THE EXPLOSION;

(4) THE ALLOWED NUMBER OF SEISMIC STATIONS SHOULD BE EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF EXPLOSIVES PLUS 5; AND

(5) THERE SHOULD BE A RIGHT TO USE RADIO LINKS TO TRANSMIT DATA.

BEYOND THESE FACTORS, WE ENCOUNTER A VERY IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES AS REFLECTED IN THE TWO TEXTS FOR PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE III.

THIS IS THE DIFFERENCE AS TO PROVISIONS FOR EMPLACEMENT, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF THE NETWORK.

IT IS THE VIEW OF THE US SIDE THAT THESE FUNCTIONS MUST BE CARRIED OUT BY THE VERIFYING SIDE WHEN THEY CHOOSE TO USE THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT, WITH THE RIGHT TO CALL UPON THE PARTY CARRYING OUT THE EXPLOSION FOR ASSISTANCE IN EMPLACEMENT.

THE VIEW INCORPORATED IN THE SOVIET TEXT IS THAT THE NETWORK SHOULD BE EMPLACED, INSTALLED AND OPERATED BY THE TWO PARTIES TOGETHER.

THIS DIFFERENCE IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS OTHER DIFFERENCES CONCERNING EXAMINATION AND RETENTION OF VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT TO BE FOUND IN THE TWO TEXTS FOR PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE IV.

THE PROVISIONS PROPOSED BY THE SOVIET SIDE FOR EMPLACEMENT, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF THE SEISMIC NETWORK -- IN ADDITION TO BEING AMBIGUOUS AND FORESHADOWING TROUBLE IN PRACTICE -- WOULD PROVIDE FOR SUBSTANTIAL ACCESS TO THE EQUIPMENT BY THE HOST PARTY. SUCH POTENTIALLY EXTENSIVE ACCESS WOULD MAKE IT EVEN SECRET

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HARDER TO RESOLVE OUR DIFFERENCES IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE IV.

WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HEAR YOUR COMMENTS TODAY ON ANY PART OF THE QUESTION OF THE LOCAL SEISMIC NETWORK; BUT WE ARE MOST CONCERNED TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS ON THE QUESTIONS OF EMPLACEMENT, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION THAT ARE REALLY PART OF THE GENERAL EQUIPMENT ISSUE. END TEXT.

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